

MASS READINGS
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

FIRST READING

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down.

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

You, the Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 79

Response: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

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| <p>1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help.</p> | <p>2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted.</p> |
| <p>3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name.</p> | |

SECOND READING

We are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.

Corinthians 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming.

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: stay awake!'

The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields

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| <p>Saint Cuthbert Catholic Church Albion Road West North Shields</p> | <p>Tynemouth Priory Partnership</p>  | <p>Saint Joseph Catholic Church Wallsend Road North Shields</p> |
| <p>Father Christopher Hughes, St Joseph's Church, Wallsend Road, Chirton, North Shields, NE29 7AA ☎ (Tel) 0191 257 5801 / ☎ (Fax) 0191 259 2589 ✉ (Email) northshields.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk / northshields.stcuthbert@rcdhn.org.uk</p> | | |
| <p>Cluster Telephone Numbers Monsignor Andrew Faley ☎ 0191 252 8021 Father Martin Stempczyk ☎ 0191 251 3770 St Cuthbert's Church ☎ 0191 257 3408</p> | | <p><i>Other Deanery Numbers</i> Father John McElhone ☎ 0191 262 3820 Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr Stephen Watson ☎ 07768 3873931</p> |

Sunday, 3rd December 2017 – 1st Sunday in Advent (Year B)

| Masses, Devotions and Services | | | |
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| | | St Cuthbert's Church | St Joseph's Church |
| Saturday | 2 nd December | 4:45pm-5:15pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass: No intention | |
| Sunday | 3 rd December 1 st Sunday of Advent (B) | 11:00am Mass: Repose of the soul of James Devlin | 9:30am Mass: Joan & Herbert Redpath |
| Monday | 4 th December | 9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Word & Communion | |
| Tuesday | 5 th December | | 9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am: Word & Communion |
| Wednesday | 6 th December | 9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass | |
| Thursday | 7 th December St Andrew | | 9:30am Mass: Raj Johnpulle |
| Friday | 8 th December Immaculate Conception | 9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Word & Communion | |
| Saturday | 9 th December | 4:45pm-5:15pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass: No intention | 9:30am No Mass |
| Sunday | 10 th December 2 nd Sunday of Advent (B) | 11:00am Mass: | 9:30am Mass: Deceased Members of the Redpath & Blakely families |

Bidding Prayers and our Partnership

We seek the intercession of our parish saints and pray:

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| Holy Mary, Mother of God. | Pray for us |
| St Joseph | Pray for us |
| St Columba | Pray for us |
| St Aidan | Pray for us |
| St Oswin | Pray for us |
| St Cuthbert | Pray for us |
| St Edmund | Pray for us |
| St Edward | Pray for us |
| St Bernadette | Pray for us |
| Lord, in your mercy | Hear our prayer |

Please pray for ... A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews: Those who Suffer Persecution; Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe, Human Life and Seafarers. Those who are sick: please pray for all who are sick, for all who are in hospital, hospice or nursing homes, including Jackie Kelly, Joseph Ackerley, Patricia Conlon, Betty Hill, Mel Mitchell, Father Bill Bellamy, Ros McGann, Father Richard Harriott, Gary James, Catherine West, Dorothy Rutherford, Nancy Healy, Gerry Thirsk, Tom Wright, Florence Redpath, Mary Wood, Chandra, Debbie Megan, Kay Butler, Sarah Harrison, Fred Stimpson, Lena Armbuster, Scott Oakley, Pat Skelly and Jean Slater. Please pray for Arthur McChrystal who has died recently and for all those whose anniversaries are at this time.

Advent – A Time of Hope

Well Happy New Year, that is from the perspective of the Church's Liturgical year! With the start of Advent we focus on a time that calls us to wait, to joyfully expect but above all to hope. St Paul did say that of the three great cardinal virtues of faith, hope and love, the greatest of these is love. I sense, however, from the perspective of our tradition we have all heard a great deal about faith and indeed love is a value we all wish to celebrate whatever our belief system. But I think it is the virtue of hope that is often forgotten but it is virtue we need more than ever. For me hope is God vision we are building towards, a vision yet to be fulfilled but one that has started. Hope is not entirely about looking to the future but to past to see what has been achieved, where God's grace has been operating and located, knowing that is process is called to continue. This is not a linear procession of progress but the dynamic of the Spirit through the action of the cross and resurrection, of sorrow and joy, of strife and reconciliation and of sin and grace. We need to be attentive to both sides, which calls us to be dependent on grace, aware of our fragility and weakness yet always open to perceive its fruits as it weaves in our lives and world. Such attentiveness and openness is the foundation of our Advent hope.

Change of Mass Times

At the parish council we discussed the Bishop's decision that all the Churches in the partnership would have one Mass in each Church at a weekend. This would mean that St Colomba's, St Aidan's and our own parish would only have two Masses each weekend. Although we, as a parish, have no choice in accepting the Bishop's decision, we do have choices in deciding when the two Masses will take place at the weekend. It was decided that at the Parish Council after Christmas, the Chair of the Parish Council will address all the Masses, presenting a number of options for the parish to consider. A vote will then take place. Once an option has been chosen, Fr Chris will then inform the Bishop who will make the final decision on whether to accept our proposal. The new Mass times will start on 17th/18th February, the first Sunday of Lent.

Youth Event

The monthly youth event The Source takes place December 6th in St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle. Live music in the cathedral for young people. Last month's event was "great". Lifts are available. Leave at 6pm and back by 9pm. This event only happens once every two months. Really worth checking it out.

First Sunday Youth Group

This youth group will be meeting this Sunday, December 3rd, at 6.00pm to 7.30pm at St Cuthbert's. All young people are welcome.

Christmas Fayre

A big thank you to all who contributed in any way to the Christmas Fayre. So far £1,733.15 has been raised. A great total – well done!

Mental Health Care

New Peer Support Group for anyone facing depression or similar mental health concerns in Whitley Bay, every Wednesday evening, 7-8.30pm, at the Whitley Bay Big Local, 503 Whitley Road, Whitley Bay, NE26 2HU. Hosted by PeerTalk, a charity underpinned by the Methodist Church, it offers a friendly and confidential space to share and be heard. No need to book. Just come along.

More into at www.peertalk.org.uk/index.php/support-groups. Starts on Wednesday 6th December and weekly thereafter.

Vacancy

The Dioceses of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancy: Refugee Project Worker, Newcastle upon Tyne – 18th hours per week. Closing date: Wednesday 6th December. For further information and details of how to apply please visit our website www.rcdhn.org.uk or contact us 0191 243 3301, email human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk.

The Summits

You are most welcome to an evening of Praise, Worship, Teaching & Testimony, Tuesday 5th December 2017, at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, NE1 5HH at 7pm. Please see poster at back of Church for more details.

Advent

During Advent on we will be having the following Liturgies:
Sunday 3rd December 4.00pm at St Cuthbert's a prayer service will be led by the young members of the Syro-Malabar (Indian) Community
Sunday 10th December 4.00pm at St Joseph's, a prayer service lead by the Filipino Music group
Friday 15th December Opening of the Crib Service at St Cuthbert's
Sunday 17th December 6.00pm at St Cuthbert's Parish Carol Service
Sunday 24th December 8.00pm The First Mass of Christmas, with Carols starting at 7.30 at St Cuthbert's
Monday 25th December 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's at 11.00am Mass at St. Cuthbert's

Children's Liturgy of the Word Study Day

Fundamentals of Children's Liturgy of the Word At St. Hilda's Resource Centre West Road, Newcastle, NE15 7PY on Saturday 3rd February 2018—10:30am—3:30pm (Registration and refreshments from 10:00am) If interested, please contact Fr Chris or Catherine, the Parish Administrator to book or contact the Department for Liturgy on :- Tel: 0191 243 3312 Email: liturgy@diocesehn.org.uk

Friends of North Tyneside

North Tyneside's Volunteering Centre is looking for local people aged 50 and over to get involved in a short-term volunteering project and make a real difference in the local community.

The Friends of North Tyneside project is a 12-week programme, which offers volunteers the chance to use their skills and experiences for the benefit of children, young adults and older and isolated residents in the borough. By volunteering two days a week for three months, participants will join a team to plan and deliver a range of sessions and activities that will have a positive impact on people in the local area.

There are so many benefits to taking part in a volunteering programme such as this. It's not a long-term commitment, it's a time-limited project and the volunteers will get to see the real results of their participation at the end of their projects. Plus it's a fantastic way to meet new people, take on new challenges and have some fun! We know that people in this age bracket have a lot to give in terms of their skills, experience and knowledge. We want to really harness that and put it to good use to solve issues in the community such as social isolation and getting young people ready for work.

No skills or volunteering experience are necessary, just a willingness to take part and the commitment of volunteering two days a week for 12 weeks. The majority of Friends of North Tyneside activities are based at the Cedarwood Trust, and the next programme will begin w/c Monday 22 January. A fun and interactive taster session will take place the week before in order to give anyone interested in taking part more information about the project and to have a go at some of the activities they might be involved in. If anyone is interested, they can get in touch with VODA on 0191 6432626.

Afternoon Tea for St Thomas More's Easter HCPT Trip

"The HCPT St. Thomas More Lourdes group will be playing bingo and providing Christmas tea in the hall after Mass. The tea will include sandwiches, scones and cakes. There is a special takeaway tea option for those of you with plans for Sunday lunch. Tickets on the door cost £5 to exchange for an afternoon tea. However all are welcome to pop in for a cuppa and buy a raffle ticket. All fund raised will go to HCPT groups 714 and 36."

Supporting the Bereaved

The newly established parish Pastoral Carers group have organized for Lisa Johnstone from Macmillan Bereavement Support Tyneside is to deliver a half-day session, Helping the Bereaved, 1pm-4pm on Tuesday 12th December 2017 in St Cuthbert's Hall. If you would like to learn more how to support people who have experienced bereavement you are welcome to participate in this session.

Crib Festival

This year the Crib Festival will be at St Cuthbert's. The festival will start on Friday 15th December and will formally end at the Carol Service on the evening of December 17th but hopefully most of the cribs will stay in St Cuthbert's until the end of the Christmas Period.

Mercy Associates

Christmas Coffee Morning. The Mercy Associates Christmas Coffee Morning with mince pie will be held at St Joseph's Church on Tuesday December 5th at 10.15 am. Prize Bingo, lucky dip and raffle. Tickets £1.00.

Christmas Parcel Appeal. The Mercy Associates would be very grateful for any donations of non-perishable goods. These can be left at the back of St Joseph's Church.

Journey of Faith

This year the Journey of Faith Programme for those inquiring about becoming a Catholic has commenced and the group meets regularly on a Thursday to reflect on the scriptures at St Cuthbert's. Fr Chris is very grateful to this group for their willingness to open up their group to those who wish to come into the Church. This meeting is also open to anyone in the parish who would like to know more about the scriptures and spend time reflecting on them.

World Gifts for Christmas

Please see leaflet from CAFOD at the back of church that may help you with the Christmas shopping. You can buy gifts on behalf of people that will help people to have a more just and healthier life. These are presents that will express the true meaning of Christmas.

Christmas Parcel Appeal

Apologies as we are only in November but our Christmas appeal starts now. As you will be aware our Parish has a long tradition of distributing food hampers to some of the less fortunate in our area. Boxes for cash donations to fund this will be in the entrance throughout November. Donations can also be given to Fr. Chris or any SVP members if you miss the box. Last year we also received supermarket vouchers and again these would be most welcome.

If you are aware of any deserving family or single person who you believe would welcome a hamper please write details - name address & preferably a contact no. - and again deposit in the box or hand over to Fr. Chris/SVP. The number and size of hampers will depend on your generosity but this initiative is always wonderfully supported by our Parish so thank you in advance.

St Joseph's Nursery

If you are getting rid of any toys St Joseph's Nursery would be grateful for any donations of: toy trains and cars, Small World Toys, e.g. Play People, animals and Dinosaurs, pre-school electronic toys, outdoor toys e.g. scooters, prams etc. construction toys (not Lego). Many thanks.

Pantomime - Saturday 6th January 2018

This year's Pantomime at Tynemouth Priory Theatre is Hansel & Gretel. Tickets are £6.00. Lists are now on the notice boards at both churches, please sign up as soon as possible. Tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Bonus Ball

Bonus Ball money due today, 5 weeks please.